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(54) **Strains of bacteria with altered metabolism of bile acids and their use**

(57) Strains of bacteria characterized by exhibiting:
(a) a 7 α -dehydroxylase activity of less than 50%, and
(b) a bile acid deconjugation activity of less than 50%,
and descendants, mutants and derivatives thereof pre-

serving activities (a) and (b); and a pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more of such strains and useful of same for preventing and treating diseases associated with or caused by an altered metabolism of bile acids.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 83 0040

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.8)
A	P. MARTEAU ET AL., : "Metabolism of bile salts by alimentary bacteria during transit in the human small intestine" MICROBIAL ECOLOGY IN HEALTH AND DISEASE, vol. 8, 1995, CHICHESTER, GB, pages 151-157, XP002054256 * the whole document *	1-3; 26-28	A61K35/74 C12R1/46 C12R1/225 C12N1/20
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 3 February 1998	Examiner Mateo Rosell, A.M.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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Application Number
EP 97 83 0040

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A	EP 0 117 570 A (ABC IST BIOLOG CHEM SPA) * abstract *	25	
A	WO 94 02503 A (ENOSYS SA ;CONTOS SIMOS (IT)) * abstract *	25	
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Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 3 February 1998	Examiner Mateo Rosell, A.M.
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X particularly relevant if taken alone Y particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A technological background O non-written disclosure P intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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